



The buffet table at the Fine Arts GALA.

### A Statement From Our New President Dr. Ed Roach

*West Texas State University is welcoming a new president to its campus this year. Dr. Ed Roach has shown concerned interest in the Music Department and it was with much pleasure that Ritornello received this statement from Dr. Roach:*

What great pride I take in the Department of Music at West Texas State University! In several of my speeches to various groups, I have stressed that one of my goals at West Texas State University is to concentrate only on things we can do very well. In short, as we work toward our goals at West Texas State University, I want the theme to be "In Search of Excellence." There is no other department in our university that I think more typifies the accomplishment of excellence than does our Department of Music.

Even before coming to West Texas State University, I heard many compliments about the strength and quality of the Department of Music. I am pleased to be associated with such a fine faculty and to learn of the very active group of music

alumni. As the new President of West Texas State University, I very much look forward to working toward the continued search for excellence in the Department of Music and other aspects of our University. And, I look forward to meeting and working with many of you in the future.

### A Statement from Our New Dean Dr. David Jorns

*One of the new faces on campus this year is our Dean of Fine Arts, Dr. David Jorns. Ritornello would like to extend a warm welcome to him and his wife, Linda, who is Associate Registrar of the University, and their daughter, Molly. His enthusiastic interest in the Music Department is obvious in this greeting to the alumni:*

As the new dean of Fine Arts at West Texas State University, it's given me great pleasure to work with our excellent

music department. At all levels of the university, throughout the community and the region our music program is recognized as one of the finest in the nation.

Recently the music department added to its achievements by undertaking a recruiting program that resulted in 106 new music majors for the fall semester. Most of these were freshmen, and to put things in perspective, new music majors made up roughly one tenth of the freshman class at WT. Much of the credit for this success goes to the strong alumni support we have throughout the state and to very diligent and selfless efforts on the part of all the music faculty.

It's my belief that the future of the music department here at WT promises to be very bright indeed. Also, let me say thanks to all of you for your continued support and interest in the work of our music department.

If you have a chance to return to campus in the near future, please drop by and say hello.



RUGEL BRANTLEY, SYLVIA NUGENT, Fine Arts Publicist, and new Fine Arts Dean DAVID JORNS at Sylvia's brain child GALA.

## New Music Faculty

We have three new faculty members in the Department of Music this fall:

**JAMES LYON**, newly appointed second violinist in the Harrington String Quartet, comes to Amarillo from Louisville, KY, where he was a first violinist in the Louisville Orchestra, a founding member of the critically acclaimed Kentucky Center Chamber Players, and on the faculties of the University of Louisville and Indiana University—Southeast. He has also served professionally as Assistant Concertmaster with the Des Moines Metro Opera and a violinist with the Rochester Philharmonic. He is a graduate of the North Carolina School of the Arts and the Eastman School of Music.

**SUSAN MARTIN**, Instructor of Percussion, received her Bachelor of Science degree in Instrumental Music Education from Ball State University and a Master of Music degree in Percussion Performance from Ohio State University. She taught instrumental music at Homestead High School, Ft. Wayne, IN, and was a member of the Ft. Wayne Philharmonic Orchestra. She was also an instructor for The Guardsmen Drum and Bugle Corps of Schaumburg, IL.

**RENE CLAUSEN** is the newly-appointed Director of Choral Activities at West Texas State University. He received the Bachelor of Arts degree in Choral Music Education from St. Olaf College, and the Master of Music Performance degree in Choral Conducting from the University of Illinois. He has completed all but the dissertation for the Doctor of Musical Arts degree, also from the University of Illinois. Prior to coming to WTSU, Mr. Clausen was on the music faculty of Wichita State University. He is active as a composer, arranger, conductor, and clinician in the mid-west area.

As an example of how well these new faculty members have fit into our department, we would like to share some quotations which we have obtained from students who are in Mr. Clausen's ensembles. Similar opinions are expressed by our students about our other new faculty.

"I feel that in performances we are a close knit group with the common purpose of enriching the lives of our listeners." E.P. Simmons, senior, Pampa.

"Mr. Clausen is a vibrant person. . . . So full of energy that it is really impossible not to catch his enthusiasm." Tammy Nagel, senior, Clovis, New Mexico.

"Rehearsals are orderly, exciting, and educational. They always have a touch of fun." Ameka Badgett, junior, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

"Mr. Clausen is the first one to jump in with his sleeves rolled up. When it comes to working and getting the right sound out of us, he doesn't let us rest until

he gets our best. He lets us know he cares about us as individuals and puts himself beside us rather than always above us. He has a league of loyal followers and rightfully so. I'm one." Sheila Dickerson, junior, Carlsbad, New Mexico.

"Mr. Clausen is really a wonderful conductor. He projects his love for the music and the choir responds so we love the music as well." Lisa Gulde, junior, Amarillo.

"Performances are uplifting, not only to the audience but especially to the performers." Mark Terry, junior, Borger.

"Rehearsal time is very strict and structured. Mr. Clausen frowns on latecomers or those who skip altogether. He seems to squeeze every bit of rehearsal he can out of a seemingly short period of time. He is a sensitive director who seems to bring new meaning to texts of songs we've sung before, even *The Little Drummer Boy*." Dana Harlow, sophomore, Enid, Oklahoma.

"I love him as a conductor, as a teacher, and as person. He talks funny. (I guess because he is from North.)" Risa Kanaoya, senior, Yokohama, Japan.

"I never go out of choir feeling gloomy and sad. Clausen always brings out the best in an individual." Jennifer Shirey, senior, Big Spring.

"Mr. C. is a very compassionate man with a remarkably true love of music." Steve Doriocourt, junior, Bryan.

"Everyone knows he makes us work hard but we appreciate this because we know we are the better for it." Beth Kuehler, senior, Groom.

## Alumni Notes

1959 — Noel Maxwell (BME) is now band director at Canyon High School.

1964 — Jeff Doughten (BME) has moved to Andrews High School.

1965 — Tony McGowan (BME; 1973, MA) is band director at Happy.

1972 — Lorna Schultz (MA) played an organ recital on the new instrument in St. Ann's Catholic Church in Canyon as part of her doctoral work in organ performance at Indiana University. The Amarillo Chapter of the American Guild of Organists sponsored the recital.

1973 — Janna Mills Johnson (BM) recently married classical guitarist Hansford Johnson. This guitar/piano duo toured Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Tennessee, and North Carolina before an October debut in Carnegie Hall. They performed a work by Manuel Ponce for which Dr. Joe Nelson, WTSU music faculty, supplied a keyboard accompaniment for two of the three movements. Amarillo is their permanent home.

1973 — Gayle Miller Wheat (BME) writes that she and husband Dewey (1973, BS; 1974, BME) are in Israel

where he is serving with the United Nations Truce Supervisory Organization in nearby southern Lebanon. Gayle is returning to Ft. Bragg, NC and Capt. Dewey will follow in January. He'll be promoted to Major and they will remain at Ft. Bragg for a couple of years.

1973 — Vickie McFarlin Gibbs (BM) has moved to Spearman where her husband Russ is pastor of First Baptist Church.

1974 — Randy Kohlenberg (MA) has been teaching at Morningside College in Sioux City, IA after working at the Composer in America in NYC. He's also serving as archivist for the International Trombone Association.

1974 — David Robinson (BME; 1976, MN) returned to present a guest recital in September which included two song cycles composed by Bill Evans, WT piano faculty. David is attending Southwest Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth. He's working on a DMA in church music during a sabbatical from William Jewell College in Liberty, MO. He has been performing in the Kansas City area and will tour with a religious music quartet.

1975 — Drs. William (bassoon/composition faculty, 1975-80) and Jolene Davis are the proud parents of Jessica Louise, born early in April. Bill is teaching bassoon/composition at the University of Georgia in Athens, and Jolene teaches theory and organ there.

1976 — Jane Johnson (BME) is teaching instrumental music as well as 4-6 English in the Amarillo schools.

1976 — Lee Kendle (BM; 1978, MA) has made a career change to real estate appraisal in Amarillo.

1976 — David Pruitt (BME) is still working in Anchorage, Alaska. He is a Customer Engineer for IBM and services computers throughout the state. He had the task of supervising the computers for the L.A. Summer Olympics in the area of gymnastics. He's active in his church's music, conducting and singing.

1976 — Donald Young (BM; 1979, MA) has changed occupations. He now owns a hardware store in Clovis, NM.

1977 — Gary Mingus (BME; 1978, MM) is working at Tolzien's Music in Amarillo, and has done a TV commercial for it. He lives in Fritch with his wife and two daughters.

1977 — Vern Zimmerman (BME) has the security of our nation in his hands while he works as a computer programmer at Pantex.

1977 — Richard (BME; 1982, MA) and Patti (Prior) (1980, BME) Nance are in Phoenix. Richard is working on a DMA choral degree at Arizona

- State University in Tempe, and Patti teaches in the Roosevelt ISD.
- 1978 — Jim (BME) and Judy (1983, BMT) Summersgill are now in San Angelo, where Judy is Music Therapist in the public schools, and Jim is Lee JHS band director.
- 1978 — Billy Talley (BME; 1981, MM) is choral director at Tascosa HS in Amarillo.
- 1980 — Steve Wilder (BMT; 1983, MA) is now working at Beaumont Neurological Center.
- 1980 — Kyle (BME; 1984, MA) and Lisa (Thomas) (1982, BME) Maxwell live in Canadian, where Kyle team-teaches 6-12 and Lisa works in general music along with JH band.
- 1980 — Russ (MA) and Leslie (MM) Blanchard in Clyde, TX, near Abilene. Russ has HS/JH bands, Leslie has HS/JH choirs, and both teach beginning music.
- 1980 — Tom Horst (percussion faculty, 1980-83) and wife Becky manage Four Seasons Resort at Lake Okoboji in northwest Iowa. Their address is PO Box 87, Arnolds Park, IA 51331.
- 1981 — Renay Conlin (MM) is now in Charleston, West Virginia, where her husband Tom conducts the symphony.
- 1981 — Ray Dillard (BM; 1983, MM; 1983-84, percussion faculty) is a part-time instructor at Texas Tech and at Wayland Baptist University. He and Cindy Cole have a voice/percussion ensemble which has bookings this year at WT, Texas Tech, Dalhart, Beaumont, Ann Arbor, and a series for Amarillo ISD.
- 1981 — Yolanda Morales Hernandez (BME) is the mother of a baby boy (Eduardo, Jr.) born last spring.
- 1981 — Cindy Steckline Johnston (BME) decides who pays how much in her job as the regional tax appraisal office in Abilene. She also directs her church's children's choir production of *Supergame II*.
- 1981 — Jency Dennis (BM; 1983, MM; 1983-84, staff accompanist) is doing public relations/managerial work at OSU in Stillwater, OK in the Athletic Gifts Dept.
- 1982 — Dee Ann Tackitt (BME) is an entrepreneur now that she has started West Texas Flag Supplies, Ltd., which manufactures several styles and any color of flags for school corps. Her community in Nazareth backs her all the way, cutting, sewing, fabricating, and shipping. Her mailing address is PO Box 48, Nazareth, TX 79063.
- 1982 — Cindy Cole Hamby (BM; 1984, MM) married Jerry Hamby last summer. He teaches English at WT.
- 1982 — Allison Campbell Johnston (BME) and husband Bryan are located in Friona, where he is practicing law and she is tending Mary Catherine while awaiting another baby.
- 1983 — Duncan Holman (BME) works at Mason's Pro Bicycle Shop in Amarillo. He's also performing with Ray Dillard, Cindy Cole, and Gregg Koyle in the "Family Day" percussions programs in the Amarillo public schools this winter.
- 1983 — Molly Darden (BM) is studying violin with Tom Moore at the University of Miami (Florida) and is working on a master's degree in performance.
- 1983 — Liz King (BME) did some graduate work at WT, but is now teaching HS English and coaching the debate team in Hardin, near Beaumont.
- 1983 — Katrina Story (BME; 1984, MA) is teaching private woodwind lessons in Midland.
- 1983 — Richard Herrera (BME; 1984, MA) is assistant band director at Rankin, south of Odessa.
- 1983 — Ricky Clem (BME) is band director at Crockett JHS in Odessa.
- 1983 — John Davis (MA) and Lisha Harrison (Dec. 1984, BME) were married last May. John is band director and head of music in Wink, and Lisha teaches trumpet in Monahans, Kermit, and Wink.
- 1983 — Bill Bingham (BM) is singing and dancing in NYC.
- 1983 — Lisa Stallings (BME) is assistant band director at Cooper HS in Abilene.
- 1983 — Heather Harney (BME) is teaching 6th grade general music and 7-9 choir at Canyon ISD's new Valleyview JHS.
- 1983 — Craig Swygard (MM) is finishing his MFA degree at the University of Iowa. He will present his third string bass recital soon and will complete teacher certification.
- 1983 — Tony Tackitt (BME) is teaching woodwinds at Amarillo College this fall, as well as teaching private students.
- 1983 — Scott Herrington (MA; 1983-84 choral faculty) is Associate Director of Choirs at Baylor University.
- 1984 — Mark Wallace (BM) is working on an MM in performance at St. Louis Conservatory studying with Leslie Parnas.
- 1984 — Gerry Lewis (BME) has a new degree, a new wife, and a new career. He's attending Southwest Theological Seminary while Eva Dee (Priddy) (1981-84 WT Band twirler) teaches in Azle public schools.
- 1984 — Kenny Shore (BME) is choir director at Humphreys Highland School in Amarillo and organist at San Jacinto Methodist Church.
- 1984 — Scott Myers (BME) is assistant band director at Central HS in San Angelo.
- 1984 — Rodney Neely (BM) is performing at Villa Inn in Amarillo.
- 1984 — Kelley Rigdon (BME) teaches all Bushland public school music—elementary, JHS band, and HS marching band.
- 1984 — Manuel Martinez (BME) is doing graduate work in instrumental conducting at WT.
- 1984 — Marvin (BME) and Tawnya Bryan (1982, BME) Perry are dangerously close to Texas Tech. Marvin is HS assistant, JHS, and jazz band director in Slaton, and Tawnya is Tahoka HS band director.
- 1984 — Dennis Dingus (BME) is assistant band director in the Tulia schools.
- 1984 — Pam Thrash (BM) had the lead soprano role of Elsie in the 1984 production of "TEXAS." She is a voice TA at WT this fall.
- 1984 — Nancy Griggs (Dec. 1984, BMMB) is currently interning with Texas Concert Opera in Houston for her BM Music Business, our first for this degree.
- 1985 — Carlos Casso is doing his music business internship at Audio Refinery Studios in Amarillo.
- 1986 — Amy Barnhart Hammel (BMT) will serve the WTSL School of Fine Arts as Publicist late this fall, succeeding Sylvia Nugent. Amy and Bruce, WT bassoon faculty, were married last summer in her Dallas home. She plans to begin her music therapy internship in January 1986.

## In Memoriam

Chuck Broussard (1978, BME) died May 1984.

Elaine Cooper Hardy (1962, BME) died October 1984.

## Faculty Footnotes

JOE COX'S Octubafest presented its 8th annual performance this fall. GEORGE EASON and ALEXIS VALK continue area performances with their faculty/alumni jazz evolution quintet, "Quintessence." Alumni members are Cindy Cole (MM, 1984), Carlos Casso (BM Business, 1984), Marvin Perry (BME, 1984), and Ray Dillard (MM, 1983). BILL EVANS' song cycle "Songs of Journey" was given its Texas premiere in recital with David Robinson (BME, 1976) this fall. St. George Episcopal Church, Canyon uses Mr. Evans' setting of the Kyrie. Gloria. Sanctus, and Lord's Prayer in their congregational singing. MARGARET FORREST (now Dr. Margaret

Forrest, Ph.D.!) appeared on the Faculty Recital series in October. HARRY HAINES' clinics in Instrumental Music Instruction for fall 1984 included clinics in Clovis and Las Cruces, NM, Region XVI Band Directors, and Ponca City, OK. Future plans include a week-long clinic in Panama in January 1985. ROBERT KRAUSE did his annual summer residency teaching at the National Music Camp, Interlockern, Michigan and performed on three programs of the Faculty Recital Series. RON LEMON, on his way back from a six week season with the New Hampshire Music Festival Orchestra stopped to check on new models by the nationally known horn maker Walter Lawson. During spring and early summer STANLEY POTTER served as adjudicator for the Dallas Music Teachers Association, Texas Music Teachers Convention, El Paso, and the National Guild of Piano Teachers, Palos Verdes, California, hearing over 200 young pianists. He will play an all-Bach program on the Faculty Recital Series in April 1985 and repeat the same program on May 19, 1985, in Dallas for the Mu Phi Epsilon Sunday Concert Series.

## Distinguished Alumni

There is in the planning, as part of a larger fine arts series, a Distinguished Alumni Series which will bring to the campus each year a WT Fine Arts graduate who has had conspicuous success in his field. It actually began this past spring semester when David Stockton (BS, 1967), conductor and artistic director of the Boston Concert Opera, was Artist-in-Residence for three weeks on campus to conduct the Opera Workshop's production of *Così fan Tutte*. While the residency was through the generosity of the Foundation for Fine Arts at West

Texas State University and officially an offering of their Fine Arts Artist-in-Residence program, David Stockton's status as a WT alumnus along with a multitude of others with similar success suggested the creation of a special series to bring "distinguished alumni" back to campus.

The first Distinguished Alumni artist will be soprano Lauran Fulton in recital Sunday, February 3, 1985, and in a Master Class during voice seminar on February 5.

## Help!

If you have read this far, you have an interest in *Ritornello* and have, no doubt, noticed something different about this issue. *Ritornello* is in danger of extinction. Funding has dried up, but a volunteer committee of music faculty has managed to publish this Spartan issue. We must now beg for contributions, in any amount, to insure that this will not be the last issue. If you ever want to see your *Ritornello* again, you must do something now. We are also seeking contributions to fund another important alumni activity, the reception at TMEA, in February. Please send your contribution to the Department of Music.

## In Appreciation

From its inception *Ritornello* has been under the exemplary care of Matilda Gaume, professor emeritus. The spring issue of 1984 was her last. It is with fondest memories and profound gratitude that we look back on that collaboration. Matilda is only ostensibly retired: time demands no longer allow her this labor of love.

We also wish to express our appreciation to Dr. Jorns and the Foundation for

Fine Arts for funding this issue of *Ritornello*.

### SCHOLARSHIP AUDITION DATES

Saturday, February 23  
Showcase, Friday, April 12  
Saturday, April 13  
Saturday, May 11



BURT ROSEVEAR and KELLI MELSON  
in the fall musical, SWEENEY TODD.

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# RITORNELLO

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